



Relieving of employees on transfer, News on FM&Terrestrial Transmission

1 message

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Wed, Mar 25, 2020 at 15:29

Ref: No:1. P-1/012(33)/2019-Ops dated 23-03-2020

2.CEO/PB/2(4)2020

Sir,

As the nation enters a complete lockdown till 14 April 2020, ARTEE as the largest association of media employees once again reiterate our resolve to help the Government in its fight against Corona Virus. Social distancing is the most needed practice we should follow. We appreciate the efforts of Prasar bharathi to continue transmission with minimum staff. We understand that the recent Broadcast Guidelines were announced to help social distancing by employing most minimum staff and stopping many of the vital duties of the broadcaster.

1. Terrestrial Transmission:

As you are aware, Terrestrial transmission is the unique feature of any National Broadcaster and it is also one of the most important Civil Defense mechanisms of the nation. So it is treated as the most essential service and we thank you for the most needed letter written by you to the Chief Secretaries of the States)/ UT in which you have reiterated the importance of the Terrestrial Transmission. But the Prasar Bharati, in the Broadcast Guidelines referred above, has termed analog and Digital Terrestrial Transmission of Doordarshan as NONESSENTIAL .As a result, the Transmitters were closed and the Broadcast of the Honourable PM did not go on air in the terrestrial mode. Prasar Bharati might have taken this drastic step to enforce social distancing to the maximum possible. **Our association supports all the effort to fight covid-19.**

We therefore request you to amend the Broadcast Guidelines by treating the Terrestrial Transmission as the essential one and to operate closed Terrestrial transmitters as and when the situation becomes normal.

2. To relay hourly news though FM Vividh Bbarati Services:

Authentic and factual information is the most needed thing now and as you are aware, FM reaches to everyone through Mobile handset and receivers. We request you to take immediate action to start HOURLY NEWS BULLETTINS AND TO RELAY REGIONAL NEWS BULLETTINS THROUGH FM IN BETWEEN VIVIDHBHARATI SERVICE which will make great impact fight COVID 19.

3. Relieving of employees on transfer.

Some zones have released transfer lists of employees especially engineering employees in view of the closure of Analog Transmitters. As you are aware, it is very difficult for the transferred employees to join at their new place of duty and to shift their family as complete lock down is in force in the entire country. But we have come to know that some stations are forcefully relieving transferred employees and also compelling them to join for duty at new places. This is highly inhuman, and the department will be at fault if anyone of these hapless employees gets infected during transit.

Therefore, we request you to kindly stop any measures taken already for closure of installations and instruct all stations not to relieve the employees, till further orders. We also request you to kindly treat any employee who is already got relieved against their wish to be treated as on Work from Home.

We request you that facilities for food and beverages like Tea and Coffee should be provided especially in remote locations and border areas. Hand sanitizer, Hand wash, Gloves and Masks has to be provided to break the chain in all the duty places and sufficient security may be provided in consultation with state government. Transport facility for the to and fro journey of the operating staff has to be provided and steps has to be taken for checkup of the staff within the office in coordination with health department.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully,

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Regards
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